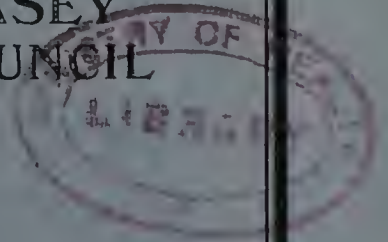


BENTLEY-WITH-ARKSEY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



THE TWENTY-SEVENTH
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

1937

BY

A. B. DUNNE,

B.A., M.B., B.C., University of Cambridge
D.P.H. Royal Colls. Physic. Lond. and
Surgns. England.
of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-law

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Doncaster :

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1911 - 1938

TWENTY-SEVEN years is a long period during which one has had the Public Health of your District under one's especial care. So, perhaps, now that the time has come to hand over to another, it may be of interest to briefly review the events of past years.

Bentley, even before it was constituted an Urban District on April 1st, 1911, always was a biggish village. The change, however, from a rural village to an Urban Community dates from the sinking of the Bentley Colliery by Messrs. Barber and Walker in 1905-1908.

The Vital Statistics of 1911 are of interest :—

The population was 6,650 inhabiting 1,341 houses, or 4.8 persons per house. To-day your population is 17,550, and there are 4,815 houses.

The privy midden was very common then, there being 498 of them (now we have only 38). The privies were emptied once in three months by a contractor, at a cost of £430 per annum. You very soon changed all that, and in the following year you employed your own staff for this work.

In 1911 the Birth-rate was 33.0 per 1,000 (it is now 18.0).

The crude Death-rate 10.0 (it is now 10.7).

The Infant Mortality 122.7 (it is now 63.0).

Communications were very indifferent. The tramways—well older readers will remember the Bentley Road section in particular. The state of this road was for many years a matter of public comment, and the first and most appreciated road improvement carried out by the Council was to make a paved footpath along it!

The Sewage problem—a constant care—faced you from the start. Toll Bar had no system at all, and Arksey Lane Works required extending.

Up to 1913 the Infectious Sick were removed to Conisborough Isolation Hospital ($7\frac{1}{2}$ miles) in a one-horsed ambulance. Hospital isolation was not very acceptable, and the difficulties of visiting the sick were indeed formidable.

The Council initiated its first Housing Scheme in 1914 at Rostholme for 100 houses, at an estimated cost of £27,000. 90 houses were completed when war broke out on August 4th, 1914, and the scheme was not completed until peace returned, and in 1919 the Council planned housing schemes for Victoria Road and Arksey Lane. Such was the Council's activity in housing matters that by 1930 you had built 916. The Council has discharged its obligation to the aged people of the district in erecting 96 houses for them at the "Homestead." At the present time you own 1,012. A fine achievement.

1918 will always be associated with the end of the Great War and the great Influenza Epidemic which swept over the world, and in a few short weeks killed many more than fell in the Great War.

Out of 185 deaths in Bentley that year 48 were due to influenza, which found its victims chiefly amongst the children and those in the prime of life.

Small Pox during 1922, 1923, 1926 and 1928 was very prevalent, as was generally the case at that time in Derbyshire and the North of England. It was of a very mild type, now generally referred to as "Variola Minor," and there were no deaths.

Writing these notes when we have recently experienced the most calamitous drought for 150 years it seems strange to recall the flood years of 1931, 1932 and 1933, which will remain imprinted on the minds of all people who were involved in them.

The first flood occurred in September, 1931, when, after an abnormal fall of rain in the gathering grounds of the Don, the river rose suddenly and flooded the Toll Bar, Daw Wood and Arksey districts. 570 houses were involved, and 180 had to be abandoned and the inhabitants evacuated. Bad as this was, worse was to follow, when after an unprecedented heavy rainfall in May, 1932, the river flowed bank high and the spillway at Sprotborough turned a torrent of water through the Town End and the Council's Athron's Building Estate was soon 5ft. to 7ft. deep in water. This was your worst flood: 4,000 acres were innundated, 1,183 houses were flooded, and 953 had to be abandoned at Toll Bar and elsewhere. 575 flood refugees were accommodated in the New Village Council School, from the end of May to the middle of July. Fortunately there was little sickness.

Yet again you were subject to floods, when after a great fall of snow, followed by a rapid thaw in February, 1933, the river overflowed its banks, and early in March the same districts as previously were flooded. 634 houses were involved, and 830 flood refugees were again housed in the schools from the beginning of March until April. It is remarkable that though the sewage system had ceased to function and though the following summer was hot and dry, there was an absence of Diarrhœal Disease throughout the district.

The floods made a deep impression on the public mind, and the aid of Parliament was invoked. Schemes were planned and are now in course of execution which should for ever remove this peril from the District.

Bentley during these years was called upon to face another great trial, when on November 20th, 1931, 45 men lost their lives in the explosion at the Bentley Colliery. The public sympathy for the people of Bentley showed itself in a ready and generous response to the Relief Fund for the Widows and Children.

During all these years the Council has steadily pursued a policy of public improvements.

In 1923 the Miners' Welfare Park of 20 acres together with the Hall were opened, the flower gardens of which are year by year a joy to behold.

In 1933 "Slum Clearance" engaged your attention, and 32 houses were scheduled.

In December, 1935, and during the January following, 4,122 houses were inspected during an overcrowding census, but only 61 were found to be so. A very gratifying fact.

Thus during the eventful years both before and after the war the Council has much useful work to its credit which it can regard with satisfaction. Modern Bentley, with its well-kept and lighted roads, its rapid and frequent motor 'bus services, its public parks and excellent modern schools and modern houses is a much better place than of olden days.

And so we arrive at the end of our story, and bid you farewell.

A. B. DUNNE.

May, 1938.



Bentley-with-Arksey Urban District Council

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

COUNCIL OFFICES,
BENTLEY.

MAY, 1938.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my twenty-seventh and final Annual Report in accordance with the Minister of Health's Circular, No. 1650, October 4, 1937, relating to the contents and arrangements of the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

The Report required by the Minister is arranged in six sections as follows:—

- (A) Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.
- (B) General Provision of Health Services for the Area.
- (C) Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.
- (D) Housing.
- (E) Inspection and Supervision of Food.
- (F) Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

I beg to thank the Clerk, Surveyor, Accountant, Sanitary Inspector, and others who have kindly supplied me with information necessary for my Report.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. B. DUNNE,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Bentley-with-Arksey Urban District Council

THE Twenty - Seventh ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH for the Year 1937

Section A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The Area of the District (land and water) is 4,961 Acres.

In the revision of County Boundaries which have recently come into effect, there has been no material change in the boundaries of the district. The small loss of 167 acres relates to portions which lay to the South-East of the Flood Drain (which is the modern River Don) and are enclosed between it and certain loops of the old course of the river which were cut off when the New and Wheatley Hall Cuts were made to straighten the river.

The Census Population taken on Sunday, April 26th, 1931, was 16,458, consisting of 8,608 males and 7,850 females.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the Resident Population—mid-year 1937—is 17,550, 290 more than the previous year. On this estimate all the Vital Statistics are based.

There were 4,815 inhabited houses in the District according to the Rate Book on December 31st, 1937, 255 more than in 1936.

The Rateable Value is £69,118 and the sum represented by a penny rate is £263.

The chief industry is Coal Mining—the men being employed mainly by the Bentley Colliery, but a large number work elsewhere. I am informed that work has been regular and that conditions are much improved.

There are also a large number of men employed on the Railways, the Doncaster Plant Works, and other Engineering Works, and these occupations are busy.

The Physical Features of the District are described in detail on pp. 5 and 6 of the Survey Report of 1930.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	M.	F.	Totals.	
LIVE BIRTHS—Legitimate	155	151	306	
Illegitimate	6	5	11	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Total ...	161	156	317	Birth rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population, 18.0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
STILL BIRTHS—Legitimate	10	10	20	
Illegitimate	1	—	1	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Total ...	11	10	21	Rate per 1000 (live and still births), 62.1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	M.	F.	Totals.	
DEATHS ...	106	83	189	(Crude) Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population, 10.7.

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

			Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)
1 Puerperal Sepsis ...	Nil.	Nil.	
2 Other Puerperal Causes	2	5.9	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Total ...	2	5.9	
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :			
All infants per 1,000 live births ...	...	...	63.0
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	...	...	62.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	...	...	90.9
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	...	...	20
„ „ Measles ...	...	...	2
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	...	...	1
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	Nil.		
Diarrhoea! Death Rate England and Wales 5.8.			

BIRTHS.

The Live Births in 1937 were 317, or 2 more than in the previous year.

This is equal to an Annual Birth Rate of 18.0 per 1,000, or 0.2 per 1,000 less than in 1936.

Of the Legitimate Births, 155 were males, and 151 females.

The Illegitimate Births were 6 males and 5 females.

There were 11 male and 10 female still births.

The Live Birth-rate of England and Wales was 14.9 per 1,000.

BIRTH-RATE, 1928—1937.

Year	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Birth Rate per 1,000	18.4	18.5	19.1	17.7	16.6	17.3	18.2	16.5	18.2	18.0
No. of Births 	298	302	313	296	274	285	304	279	315	317

DEATHS.

The Deaths in 1937 were 189, or 12 more than in the previous year.

This is equal to a crude Annual Death-rate of 10.7 per 1,000.

The comparability factor (1.39) supplied by the Registrar-General for correcting the foregoing, enables one to give the True or Standardised Death-rate 14.9 or 0.8 per 1,000 more than in the previous year. The male deaths were 106, and the females 83.

The Death-rate for England and Wales was 12.4 per 1,000.

DEATH-RATE, 1928—1937 (STANDARD).

Year	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Death Rate per 1,000	9.5	12.0	9.4	13.3	10.7	10.6	12.0	13.0	14.1	14.9
No. of Deaths	132	167	131	186	150	148	146	160	177	189

DEATHS FROM THE SEVEN PRINCIPAL ZYMOTIC
DISEASES.

1.	Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	0
2.	Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	0
3.	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	2
4.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	0
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	1
6.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	0
7.	Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Total	...	...	...	...	...	3

or 1 less than in 1936, and equal to an Annual Zymotic Death-rate of 0.17 per 1,000, as compared with 0.2 in the previous year.

The Death-rate for Diarrhœal Diseases (under 2 years of age) per 1,000 Live Births is Nil.

That of England and Wales is 5.8.

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

1. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System :				
(males 7, females 5)	...	...	...	12
2. Other Tuberculous Diseases :				
(males 1, females Nil)	...	...	...	1
				<hr/>
Total	...	..	...	13
				<hr/>

Equal to an Annual Death-rate of 0.74 per 1,000.

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL SEPSIS AND OTHER PUERPERAL CAUSES.

Eleven notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia were received during 1937. All were treated at Edenfield Nursing Home.

No deaths were registered as due to Puerperal Sepsis, but two were registered as due to "other Puerperal Causes."

The Maternal Death-rate per 1,000 live and still births was 5.9, as compared with 15.2 last year.

That of England and Wales was 3.11.

The notifications of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia per 1,000 total births were 32.5. While those of England and Wales were 13.9.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

In 1937 20 infants (13 male and 7 female) died under one year of age.

The corresponding figures in 1936 were 19 males and 7 females.

There was 1 death of an illegitimate male child.

The Infantile Mortality rate was 63.0 per 1,000 live births. That of England and Wales for 1937 was 58.0.

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1928—1937.

Year	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Infantile Mortality Rate (<i>per 1,000 births</i>)...	73.8	119.2	95.8	101.3	65.6	56.1	75.6	64.7	82.5	63.0
No. of Deaths	22	36	30	30	18	16	23	18	26	20

The deaths fall into the following groups: Congenital Debility, Premature Birth and Malformation 12; Meningitis 1; Broncho-Pneumonia 5; and Other Causes 2.

Section B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDIES BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY OR BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

A 1.—FEVER AND SMALL POX HOSPITALS.

The Council is a constituent member of the Doncaster and Mexborough Joint Hospital Board.

The Hospital is conveniently situated on an elevated and healthy site at Conisborough Common. It is a modern brick building with large and well-equipped wards and administrative blocks, etc. Eighty-two beds are provided for Diphtheria, Scarlet, Enteric and Cerebro-Spinal Fever Cases.

The accommodation for fifty Small Pox patients is in another building—some distance away from the main hospital in Drake Head Lane. A Motor Ambulance is provided for the removal of ordinary infectious cases, and another for the removal of Small Pox cases.

There is a Steam Disinfecting Apparatus at the Hospital.

Plans have been submitted and are awaiting the final sanction of the Ministry for the following additions to the Hospital: Administration Block, New Kitchens, Nurses' Home, a Cubicle Isolation Block, a Diphtheria Ward, Porter's Lodge, Mortuary, and Visitors' Room. The number of new beds are allotted as follows: Diphtheria 26 beds, Isolation Cubicles 11 beds.

B 1.—TUBERCULOSIS.

The County Council maintain a Dispensary at 20 Christ Church Road, Doncaster, which is the Headquarters of the Tuberculosis Officer for the District and his Staff.

Patients are seen on Mondays at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

There is a Tuberculosis Care Committee of ladies working in conjunction with the Red Cross and the County Council, which makes grants of clothing to suitable cases.

2.—MATERNITY.

There is no Maternity Hospital in the District, but negotiations are now taking place between the West Riding County Council and the Doncaster Royal Infirmary for the erection of a Maternity Block of 80 beds, as an annexe to the Infirmary. Until this comes into being the West Riding County Council has arranged for Maternity Cases requiring special treatment to be received into Edenfield Private Nursing Home, Thorne Road, Doncaster.

3.—OTHER HOSPITALS.

Medical, Surgical and Accident cases are admitted to the Doncaster Royal Infirmary, and at the General and Special Hospitals at Leeds and Sheffield. All these Hospitals are maintained on a voluntary basis.

The West Riding County Council have announced their intention of building a General Hospital at Marr, with a service of 600 beds.

A Venereal Clinic has been established by the County Council and is held at the Doncaster Royal Infirmary. Men are seen on Tuesday and Friday at 4 p.m., and again on Friday at 9 a.m., and Women and Children on Monday at 5 p.m.

4.—AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

An ambulance for Infectious Diseases is provided by the Doncaster and Mexborough Joint Hospital Board. Accident Cases are provided for by an ambulance maintained by the local Colliery, and the Local Authority has a motor ambulance for ordinary cases of sickness.

5.—CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The County Council has established a Mothers' and Babies' Welfare at the Pavilion, in the Miners' Welfare Park, where the Medical Officer attends on Wednesdays at 2.30 p.m. The Pavilion is commodious and convenient for this work, and is easy of access from all parts of the district. An average of 33 infants are seen each session by the Medical Officer. An Ante-Natal Clinic, conducted by a Lady Doctor, is held at the Pavilion on the afternoon of the first and third Fridays in each month; 20 expectant mothers are seen each session.

A Clinic is held at 9 a.m. on Wednesday and Friday by the Nurse for the treatment of minor ailments of School Children.

There are two whole-time Health Visitors for the district, provided by the County Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

1.—MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

A. B. DUNNE, B.A., M.B., B.C., Cambridge University, D.P.H., London. Half of his salary is paid out of the County Fund, and charged to the Exchequer Contribution Account.

He was appointed in 1911.

2.—SANITARY INSPECTOR.

J. T. Briggs, M.R.S.I. He holds the Certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute, of Sanitary, Meat and Food and Smoke Inspector, and Certificate of Sanitary Science.

He is the officer designated under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1936, and the Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Act, 1926, and has also been appointed the officer under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, and Sampling Officer under the Food and Drugs Act, acting on behalf of the County Council within the area of the Urban District, and Shops Act Inspector.

The appointment is a whole-time one. Half of his salary is paid out of the County Fund, and charged to the Exchequer Contribution Account.

3.—E. Gillott, assistant in the Sanitary Inspector's Office.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

The Bentley Mine Workers' Nursing Association provides one Trained Nurse for the District, whose services are confined to the families of the employees of the Bentley Colliery Co.

The Association is on a voluntary basis.

MIDWIVES.

The County Council are the controlling authority. Disinfection of the Midwives' outfits and clothing is done by the local Authority—at the request of the County Council.

The West Riding County Council's scheme for whole-time Midwives employed by them came into force on July 1st and they have allotted 3 for the district.

CHEMICAL WORK.

Analyses of Water, etc., are carried out by the County Analyst as required.

Pathological Specimens are sent to the County Laboratory, Wakefield, the County Council providing special "outfits."

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE.

*Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts (Amendment Act), 1890. Parts II., III., IV., and V., November 7th, 1911.

Private Street Works Act, 1892, November 7th, 1921.

Public Health Acts (Amendment Act), 1907. Parts II. and VI., and certain sections of Parts IV. and X., August 26th, 1919.

Public Health Act, 1925. Part II., December 21st, 1926.

BYE-LAWS WITH DATE OF ADOPTION.

*Cleansing of Footways and Pavements, 2nd July, 1896.

Common Lodging House, 21st September, 1921.

Tents, Vans, Sheds, and similar structures, 18th September, 1935.

Public Parks and Pleasure Grounds, 14th December, 1921.

Offensive Trades, 14th December, 1921.

Management of Cemeteries, 29th November, 1922.

Prevention of Nuisances, 24th January, 1923.

Hackney Carriages, 16th May, 1923.

Slaughter Houses, 11th July, 1923.

New Streets and Buildings, 23rd January, 1924.

Smoke Abatement, 17th December, 1929.

*Bye-Laws and Regulations adopted by the Doncaster Rural District Council.

Section C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

The Urban District is within the Doncaster Corporation's area of supply. The water supply for most of the district is a mixed one, part from the Nutwell bore in Cantley Parish, and part from Langsett Reservoir.

The findings of the recent enquiry into the Typhoid outbreak at Croydon have shown how careful a Water Authority should be in employing the workmen engaged in or about the waterworks. At Croydon, a workman who proved to be a Typhoid carrier infected a well, and therefrom some hundreds of cases of Typhoid ensued and many deaths.

The Council are not responsible directly, as Bentley is within the area of supply of the Corporation, but it would certainly be reasonable to ask the Corporation to furnish them with copies of all periodic reports of chemical and bacteriological analyses of the town's water.

Twenty-four houses, including 7 farms are supplied from wells, and 24 from stand pipes in yards.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The River Don, which is described in the Ordnance Map as the Flood Drain, forms the Eastern boundary of the district, and receives the Mill Stream.

The Mill Stream, which receives the effluent both of your Sewage Works, and those of Adwick-le-Street Urban Council, is in a satisfactory condition.

The Colliery Company maintain four pumping stations at Arksey, Tilts, Shaftholme, and Bentley, to drain the land lowered by the Colliery workings.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There are two Sewage Disposal Works.

1. **ARKSEY LANE**, at which the whole of the Sewage of the district, with the exception of Toll Bar, is treated, were constructed in 1907, and enlarged in 1913 and 1925.

All the sewage has to be pumped through mains from electrically-equipped pumping stations.

2. **TOLL BAR**. These were constructed in 1914, and treat the sewage from Toll Bar and Adwick Lane. The sewage is raised by an electric pump on to the filter.

In the near future additions to the Sewage Works in Arksey Lane will have to be considered, as there is every likelihood of further building along the Great North Road, at Scawthorpe, which now is being rapidly built up.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Number of Water Closets	...	...	...	4,857
Number of Privies	...	...	...	38
Number of Pail Closets	...	...	...	4
Number of W.C.'s constructed for New Houses	...	...	...	185
Number of W.C.'s constructed for Old Houses	...	...	...	Nil.
Number of Conversions of Privy or Pail Closets	...	...	...	2

Two pail closets were connected to the water carriage system.

SCAVENGING.

This is done by the Council under the direction of the Surveyor.

The refuse collected during the year is as follows:—

						Loads.
Dry Refuse	...	...	...	...	...	3,754
Night Soil	...	...	...	...	...	22
						<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	3,776
						<hr/>

The cost amounted to £2,165. The dry refuse from the house bins is collected weekly, and is mostly taken to the tip adjoining the Sewage Works in Arksey Lane, and on low land off Bentley Road, adjoining the railway. The night soil is collected every six weeks.

The staff comprises one foreman, two horsemen, six carriers, and one motor driver.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

Return made by the Sanitary Inspector to the Medical Officer of Health in accordance with Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations, 1935 :

No. of Inspections	...	...	...	...	3,469
No. of Informal Notices served	...	...	...	...	298
No. of Informal Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	278
No. of Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	...	32
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	32
No. of Informal Notices outstanding	...	...	...	...	20

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

Arrangements were made for sanitary and washing accommodation for the workers at one shop.

OTHER CONDITIONS REQUIRING NOTICE.**I. SMOKE ABATEMENT.**

Six observations for purpose of Smoke Abatement were taken during the year. Under the bye-law, "The emission of black smoke for a period of three minutes in the aggregate within any continuous period of thirty minutes from any one chimney in a building other than a private dwelling house shall be deemed a nuisance."

The Council is a member of the Doncaster District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee.

II. SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are none. There is a large Pit Head Bathing Establishment at the Bentley Colliery.

III. FRIED FISH SHOPS.

There are 16 Shops, and 48 inspections have been made. The Council have classified fish frying as an "offensive trade."

All are in good order.

BED BUGS.

No. of Houses found to be infested:—

1. Council Houses	...	...	...	Nil
2. Private Houses	...	...	...	9

The houses were stripped of architraves, skirting boards, etc., and then sprayed with a liquid insecticide, the rooms fumigated with SO_2 gas and afterwards sealed up. This work is carried out by Council workmen under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. In no instance has it been necessary to repeat the process. The Sanitary Inspector inspects the homes of all prospective Council tenants as to their cleanliness or otherwise, and reports to the Housing Committee before they are given a house.

SCHOOLS.

There are five Public Elementary Schools and one Senior School maintained by the West Riding County Council, and one Non-Provided (Roman Catholic) Elementary School.

The Schools are all well-constructed, modern buildings of brick, the oldest dating (Arksey excepted) from 1877.

In the village of Arksey there is an Endowed School, dating from 1666, with a corrugated iron annexe.

All these schools are provided with a sufficient number of W.C.'s.

Water is laid on to all schools from the Corporation mains.

The cloakrooms and lavatory accommodation are ample. Central heating is provided in all schools with the exception of Arksey.

All have large asphalted playgrounds.

The County Medical Officer of Health is the School Medical Officer and is responsible for the medical inspection of school children and the closure of schools during times of epidemics.

The Local Authority disinfect the schools on request and when required.

Six Schools were disinfected after the Influenza Epidemic.

The County Council are providing a temporary school for the children who at present come to the Kirkby Avenue School both from the houses on the Great North Road, which are in the Bentley U.D. as well as for the children who live on the opposite side of it in the Doncaster R.D. All Senior mixed children from Sprotborough, High Melton, and Cadeby still attend Kirkby Avenue School.

Section D.**HOUSING.**

The new sections of the Housing Act, 1936, came into force on October 1st, and will give the Council control both over the site on which vans, etc., are erected, and the vans themselves.

Van dwellers continue to frequent Bentley and are periodically inspected, and are required to come up to a minimum standard of sanitary convenience as required by your Bye-Laws. They are all provided with water from the public supply. They are situated at Toll Bar 7, Shakespeare Road 1, Cooke Street 9, Bentley Road 11. One site was closed during the year.

One hundred and eighty-five houses have been erected during the year, chiefly at Watchhouse Lane, Great North Road, and Jossey Lane.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1937.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

- (a) Total 185.
- (b) With State Assistance under the Housing Act :—
 - I. By the Local Authority ... Nil
 - II. By other bodies or persons... Nil
- (c) Unassisted 185

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES during the year :

- (1) (a) Total number of Dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 499
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 1,615
- (2) (a) Number of Dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... 96
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 649
- (3) Number of Dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... Nil

(4) Number of Dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation		68
2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS during the year without service of formal Notices :—		
Number of defective Dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers		423
3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS during the year :		
A. Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :		
(1) Number of Dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...		46
(2) Number of Dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—		
(a) By owners		16
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners		1
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :		
(1) Number of Dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied		32
(2) Number of Dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—		
(a) By owners		28
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners		4
C. Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :		
(1) Number of Dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made		Nil
(2) Number of Dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders		Nil
D. Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :		
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made		Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil
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4. HOUSING ACT, 1936 (PART IV).—OVERCROWDING.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	10
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...	11
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	86
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	Nil
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	33
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	248
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	Nil

Section E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

A. MILK SUPPLY.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

No. of Registered Premises	51
No. of Cowsheds	44
No. of Cows	285
No. of Cowkeepers and Wholesale Producers ...	23
No. of Retailers	43
No. of Inspections	203

All Cowsheds are regularly inspected. An inspection of the cows on registered milk-producing premises has been made by the Veterinary Officer of the County Council in November last, accompanied by your Sanitary Inspector. 308 cows (251 in milk and 57 dry) were examined on 27 farms. This inspection was under Part IV. of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, and concerns the health of the cows, and is more especially directed to the detection and elimination from the herd of tuberculosis milch cows. This part of the Order is administered by the County Council, and comes under the purview of the County Veterinary Inspector. The rest of the Order relating to the structure and cleanliness of the cowsheds is administered by you.

B. MEAT.

No. of Licensed Slaughter Houses 4
And one Knacker Yard.

The Sanitary Inspector is the officer designated under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924. 272 visits were made to Slaughter Houses, and 904 stones of meat, etc., were condemned by the Inspector and surrendered by the butchers. The Slaughter Houses are privately owned and well conducted. There have been no prosecutions during the year.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excl'd'g Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Number killed	15	343	9	177	304
Number inspected	15	344*	9	177	304
All diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcasses condemned	—	1	—	1	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	23	—	—	6
% of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	6.66%	6.99%	—	.56%	2.3%
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	15	1	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	85	—	—	22
% of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	6.66%	29.1%	11.1%	—	7.23%

* One carcass brought into the district and condemned.

C. BAKE-HOUSES.

There are 8 in the district. They are regularly inspected and are well conducted.

Section F.

**PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.**

131 notifications have been received during 1937, compared with 112 in 1936.

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DURING 1937.**

DISEASE	Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
1. Small Pox	—	—	—
2. Scarlet Fever	43	43	—
3. Diphtheria	15	15	—
5. Puerperal Pyrexia	11	11	—
6. Pneumonia	39	—	20 (all forms)
7. Cerebro-Spinal Fever ..	—	—	
8. Erysipelas	8	—	—
9. Enteric Fever	—	—	—
10. Ophthalmia Neonatorum	15	—	—
Total	131	69	—

1. SMALL POX.

No case has been notified during 1937.

2. SCARLET FEVER.

Forty-three cases were notified, as compared with forty-eight in 1936. All were removed to the Isolation Hospital. The cases were notified during the following months: February 3, March 2, April 6, May 1, June 5, July 1, August 1, September 5, October 8, November 9, and December 2. The males number 19 and the females 24. Twenty-four were children of school age. The oldest was aged 48, and the youngest 3 years. The attack rate per 1,000 was 2.4 as compared with 2.7 in 1936.

3. DIPHTHERIA.

Fifteen cases were notified, as compared with fourteen in the previous year. All were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

They were notified as follows:—February 1, March 2, May 1, June 1, August 6, October 2, and November 2.

The males numbered four, and the females eleven. Ten cases occurred amongst children of school age; four cases occurred in patients over school age, the oldest being 56; one child under school age was notified, the youngest being 2 years.

The attack rate per 1,000 was 0.8.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

On and after October 9th, by order of the Minister of Health, all cases will be designated under the title of “Puerperal Pyrexia.”

4. PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

For purposes of notification Puerperal Pyrexia has been defined in the Ministry of Health Orders as meaning “any febrile condition occurring in a woman within 21 days after childbirth or miscarriage in which a temperature of 100.4° F. (38° Centigrade) or more has been sustained during a period of 24 hours or has recurred during that period.”

Eleven cases were notified during the year, and were removed to Edenfield Nursing Home.

The attack rate per 1,000 live and still births was 32.5. That of England and Wales was 13.9.

5. PNEUMONIA.

Thirty-nine cases were notified during the following months: January 14, February 1, April 4, May 1, June 3, July 2, August 1, September 3, October 5, November 2, December 3.

6. CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

Nil.

7. ERYSIPELAS.

Eight cases were notified as compared with two last year.

8. ENTERIC FEVER.
Nil.

9. OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.
Fifteen cases have been notified during the year.

CASES			Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
No. Notified	Treated at Home	Treated at Hospital				
15	15	—	15	—	—	—

This is equal to an attack-rate of 47.3 per 1,000 births.

This disease is now notified to the West Riding County Council direct, but a copy of all such notifications are sent to the District M.O.H.

The figure this year is the highest ever recorded in the Urban District.

**TUBERCULOSIS, NEW CASES AND MORTALITY.
1937.**

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Other Forms		Respiratory		Other Forms	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— 1 	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5 	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 	4	1	—	—	2	2	1	—
25—35 	3	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
35—45 	1	1	—	—	1	2	—	—
45—55 	3	—	1	—	1	1	—	—
55—65 	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals ...	13	3	3	—	7	5	1	—

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1930.

No case of a Tuberculous employee in the Milk Trade was notified.

Sixteen primary notifications of Respiratory and three of Other Forms of Tuberculosis were received, as compared with thirty-three and seven respectively in 1936.

Eighteen cases were treated at the following Sanatoria:— Middleton 10, Dean Head 2, Cardigan 4, and Oakwood Hall 2.

The number of cases in the Tuberculosis Register on December 31, 1937, were: Respiratory Tuberculosis, males 75, females 38; Other Forms Tuberculosis, males 29, females 13. The corresponding figures for 1936 were: Respiratory Tuberculosis, males 71, females 42; Other Forms of Tuberculosis, males 28, females 13.

The above Regulations (Article (10) iii) place the Register in the custody of the Medical Officer of Health, and impose on him the duty of revising the Register every quarter. This has been done.

The West Riding Ladies' Care Committee, associated with the Red Cross Society, supplies underclothing to necessitous cases. This work is on a voluntary footing, the garments being made or bought out of funds raised by the Committee.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

1937.

CAUSES OF DEATH.						Males.	Females
ALL CAUSES						106	83
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers ...					—	—
2	Measles					1	1
3	Scarlet fever					—	—
4	Whooping cough					1	—
5	Diphtheria					—	—
6	Influenza					7	4
7	Encephalitis lethargica					—	—
8	Cerebro-spinal fever					—	1
9	Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...					7	5
10	Other tuberculous diseases					1	—
11	Syphilis					—	—
12	General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis					2	1
13	Cancer, malignant disease					7	13
14	Diabetes					1	1
15	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.					6	3
16	Heart disease					22	20
17	Aneurysm					1	—
18	Circulatory diseases					4	1
19	Bronchitis					1	1
20	Pneumonia (all forms)					12	8
21	Other respiratory diseases					1	—
22	Peptic ulcer					3	2
23	Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years) ...					—	—
24	Appendicitis					1	2
25	Cirrhosis of liver					—	—
26	Other diseases of liver, &c.					—	1
27	Other digestive diseases					3	2
28	Acute and chronic nephritis					3	1
29	Puerperal sepsis					—	—
30	Other puerperal causes					—	2
31	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, &c.					8	4
32	Senility					1	4
33	Suicide					—	1
34	Other violence					6	1
35	Other defined diseases					7	4
36	Causes ill-defined or unknown ...					—	—
Special causes (included in No. 35 above)—							
	Small Pox					—	—
	Poliomyelitis					—	—
	Polioencephalitis					—	—

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1937, for the Urban District of Bentley-with-Arksey

on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901,
in connection with

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries).	7	—	—
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries).	56	—	—
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises).	—	—	—
Total	63	—	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i> [*]				
Want of cleanliness	—	—	—	—
Want of ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances (new places built) ...	—	1	—	—
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient .. .	—	—	—	—
{ unsuitable or defective .. .	—	—	—	—
{ not separate for sexes .. .	—	—	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bake-house (s. 101).	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to out-work and offences under the sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order 1921).				
Total	—	1	—	—

^{*}Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8, of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1921 as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

(Signature)

A. B. DUNNE, B.A., M.B., B.C., Cambridge University

May, 1938

Medical Officer of Health

